

James May  
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No. 4

## Hemoptysis.

Reflecting on the anatomy of the organs of respiration, on the ramifications of their numerous blood vessels, the extreme tenderness of the parts concerned, and the many accidents to which they are liable, it becomes matter of wonder why hemorrhages from the lungs are not more frequent.

The causes of Hemoptysis are

- 1<sup>st</sup> Malconformation of the chest, derived either from our ancestors, or from disease.
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Suppressions of accustomary evacuations; as the Menstrual Hemorrhoidal &c.
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Diphtheria, 4<sup>th</sup> by Sedentary habits, 5<sup>th</sup> violent Cataracts, 6<sup>th</sup> Impelled eruptions, 7<sup>th</sup> violent passions
- 8<sup>th</sup> Sudden growth about the age of puberty.
- 9<sup>th</sup> Lifting heavy weights, or any great bodily exertion.

*Worrell's*

Worrell's is getting all we wanted  
and is in full swing now. We are about  
done with the framed houses at Sodus Bay  
and about to receive payment. We have finished  
the number of houses named by Mr. Worrell  
and have now begun the first apartment  
houses. They are being built in pairs. All  
the houses built up to this point have  
been built in pairs, so it will be easy  
to finish them. The apartment houses  
will be built in pairs, so it will be easy  
to finish them. The apartment houses  
will be built in pairs, so it will be easy  
to finish them.

10<sup>th</sup> by External violence, 11<sup>th</sup> by Plethora and 12<sup>th</sup> by from an abscess in the lungs, succeeding badly treated pneumonia, or from tubercles.

The Proximate or exciting causes of this disease are 1<sup>st</sup> sudden change from heat to cold, and vice versa - 2<sup>nd</sup> a diminution in the weight of the atmosphere, as has been frequently and fully proved by men when ascending high mountains; 3<sup>rd</sup> violent Stimulating passions. 4<sup>th</sup> exertions of the lungs as in laughing, singing, hallooing, or any violent exercise of the organs of respiration. 5<sup>th</sup> Cases of this disease are more frequently met with in the spring than in any other season of the year; but that it is attributable to a rarefaction of the fluids of the system by heat, as has been supposed by some very respectable authors, is still a doubtful question, which has been little attended to by those eminent men who have illumined the western world with their useful discoveries;

the first of which I have copied all the  
way down. There is a very large  
amount of space between the lines of  
writing, so that each page is almost  
double its height, though the writing itself  
is not very large. The handwriting is  
neat and clear, and the paper is  
yellowish-tan, with some  
greenish tint at the bottom. The  
writing is done in ink, and the  
paper is very good quality.

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who have removed so many of the dark and  
superstitious clouds, which from time immemorial  
have enveloped the medical knowledge of despotic  
Europe; who from the hands of Empiricks and  
old women, have rescued this noble science,  
and held it up in all its magnificence as  
worthy of the favorit of Columbia's sons; to  
whom we look up for instructions necessary  
to prepare us to profit by the experience  
which we may hereafter daily receive.

I think it would be much more rational to  
account for the hemorrhage taking place by  
the sudden change of the weather, than by the  
rarefaction of the blood; it being incontrovertibly  
proved, that the blood in whatever climate or  
season, is of the same temperature. - allowing  
it possible that the blood could be rarefied by  
any external impression, would not <sup>The blood vessels</sup> ~~the power~~  
~~dilated~~, in proportion as its density is  
lessened?



Hemoptysis most frequently occurs between the age of fourteen and twenty-five. Dr. Rush says, that those persons who have been early instructed in vocal music, and who use their vocal organs moderately through life, are seldom affected by this disease.— As in most of the hemorrhages of early life, the blood in Hemoptysis is arterial. It occurs most frequently at night, while the lungs are in a passive state.—

It is divided by Cullen into active and Passive

of active Hemorrhage from the lungs  
This disease is ushered in with a chill, cold extremities, a sense of weight or fulness, pain in the back and breast, a sense of heat under the sternum, a difficulty of breathing, and generally a saltish taste on the tongue—

These symptoms having continued for a longer or shorter time, a tickling irritation is felt in the trachea, causing a cough and expectoration

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the country, especially towns and cities  
where great numbers of men, women and children  
are gathered together and much other unusual  
and disorderly scenes with were also seen various  
and most remarkable signs which appeared of divine  
intervention all of which was very remarkable  
and singularly remarkable and well set off by the  
other singular circumstances which then occurred.

After the work performed was finished  
the people of town in general were  
very rejoiced at having so much as assistance  
rendered to them in their time of need. The  
work performed by themselves is reported  
to have cost them about £1000.00 and  
the number greatly exceeded itself  
as well as could be easily calculated  
from figures or accounts contained in the  
different reports.

of frothy florid blood, generally at first in small quantities, but sometimes in very large quantities.

These symptoms if not put a stop to, return again in some short period; and at length, the patient, from the loss of so much blood, becomes pale; the discharges are more profuse; the pulse becomes small, quick, and frequent; the difficulty of breathing increases to a dangerous degree; the patient becomes very much debilitated, the extremities cold, dyspepsia, nervous convulsions, and death.

This disease, like most others, may be mistaken for some other one, if the symptoms and circumstances of the case are not well attended to, and judiciously discriminated. Blood thrown out by way of the mouth is not always from the lungs; but may proceed from the stomach, fauces, or posterior never. When it is from the posterior nares, or fauces, it is brought up by hawking, and by looking at the fauces we can see from whence the blood issues: it also flows in very small quantities.



Haemorrhage from the Stomach are almost invariably venous; it is of a clotted dark appearance,  
thrown up by vomiting. — There is also great sense  
of weight, pain, and anxiety in the region of the  
Stomach —

### Of The Treatment of Haemoptysis

The indications of treatment in active haemoptysis  
are two: 1<sup>st</sup> to arrest the flow of blood; and 2<sup>nd</sup> to  
prevent a recurrence of the hemorrhage.

The first indication requires a diminution of the  
force of the arterial system: To effect this the  
most potent remedy that we can call to our aid  
is.

#### Venesection.

The beneficial effect of this remedy, have been  
tested by long experience, and been allowed by the  
most respectable and learned physicians; yet it  
must not be forgotten, that some authors have  
denied its efficacy.

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The quantity of blood which should be taken, ought to be in proportion to the violence of the case. We should never close the veins of the arm, until we make a decided impression on the system, by reducing the pulse. Thus managed, Venesection, in the hands of a man of judgment, is of imminent importance.

This should be the first remedy with which to begin the treatment of Hemoptysis - Its usefulness, in diminishing arterial action, is fully illustrated in Rush's medical enquiries Vol. 4 -

### Muriate of Soda.

For the utility of this remedy we are indebted to Dr. Rush - It is now very deservedly used by most of the physicians of the United States. The most proper mode of administering this medicine, is, by giving about a tea-spoon full of clean, white table salt, every fifteen or twenty minutes, beginning, as soon as possible after the

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hemorrhage takes place - Dr Chapman thinks it acts more efficaciously by dissolving slowly on the tongue, than when it is previously dissolved in water.

### Cathartics

These are seldom used in active Hemoptysis - but should the patient's bowels not be in a soluble state, it will be proper to administer some mild purgative. In some other hemorrhages, cathartics might be very properly used, with a view of reducing flatulence; but in diseases of the lungs, none but those of the mildest kind can be admitted, unless there are some other violent symptoms demanding them - - -

### Emetics

Cinches were first brought into notice by Dr. N. Robison, who spoke very highly of them - They are dangerous remedies, and should not be resorted to, unless other ~~means~~

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which are more sopor. Employ'd in nauseating doses, they become very useful in the treatment of Hemorrhages - Moreley's vitriolic solution, was highly recommended by himself and Dr. Barton - Dr. Chapman uses a combination of Sassafras and opium, (N. pulv: Sassafras: g. lli; pulv:  
g. opii gr. ss. in one of these to be given every hour or two to excite nausea, for ten, twelve, or twenty four hours. Emetics are useful when the hemorrhage is slight, and accompanied with a discharge of tough mucus; they determine to the surface, lessen cough, and difficult respiration; promote expectoration and equalize excitement.

### Refrigerants

Among the refrigerants, may be classed all the neutral salts; but as the nitrate of potash is the most active, and more frequently resorted to, I shall only mention the properties of it.

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Nitre has been very highly spoken of in hemoptysis. It has no astringent quality, and should only be used as a powerful auxiliary to the lancet, with a view of restraining arterial action - Dr. Dickson writes speaks very highly of it, direct it to be given in form of an electuary - R. Sal: Albe 3sp. Concoct: Rosa: 3lb. M. the size of a nutmeg to be taken four, six or eight times a day - It may be used more advantageously, I think, by combining with it Emetic Tartar, forming antimonial powders -

### Cold Applications.

Cold applications, as Ice, or very cold water applied to the surface, particularly to the axilla or scrotum, are very useful remedies in hemorrhages. It has been recommended by some to wrap the whole body in a wet sheet, to douse on cold water, or to immerse the patient.

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These say Dr Chapman's are dangerous remedies,  
and should not be resorted to, but in the most  
desperate cases, as they might prove injurious  
by determining to the lungs.

St Ghies, of Cremona, narrates the case of a young  
man who had frequent spitting of blood and  
violent fever; after other remedies had failed  
he gave him extremely cold water to drink,  
a cup full every fifteen minutes: in a  
few hours the disease ceased, the fever and  
cough became less troublesome, and in a few  
days the patient recovered.

#### Acetate of Lead.

To Dr Barton we owe the celebrity of this  
medicine in restraining internal hemorrhages.  
It had long been mentioned among the remedies  
powerful in this disease, but it was that infusibility  
which is one of the characteristics of the American  
physician, first taught us to conceive that most  
useful former plan, and to administer a suitable

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large enough to show the full effect of the medicine. It is directed it in doses of three or four grains every two or three hours. <sup>It is most proper</sup> the first <sup>the first</sup> dose should to give it combined with some narcotic; opium is best. By combining it with opium, or admiringly it alone, it may, and ought in violent cases to be given in much larger doses, and at shorter intervals. This can be done with perfect safety. I may now mention the case of a woman who took two drachms of the medicine without any other perceptible effect, than an active purging; one larger dose, however ~~had~~ <sup>has</sup> ~~not~~ <sup>ever</sup> ~~been~~ given without any bad effect resulting therefrom. The administration of sugar of lead, should be an active haemoptysis, always preceding by benesecies.

#### Opium

The Grancis have in some cases resorted to haemoptysis in active, though, no yielding, irritation, when Opium is to be preferred. When the

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cough and irritation are very troublesome it may be  
admitted, notwithstanding the activity of the disease.

### Local Applications

The two & three applications immediately over the seat of the disease, are very well calculated after the use of the lancet has been made so far as the safety of the patient will admit, to divert the morbid excitement from the lungs to the surface. Blister are supposed to be alike effectual, whether applied to the breast, neck, or extremities.

In order that the above remedies may have their full effect, the patient should be placed in a cool well ventilated room. The patient should not be allowed to talk, nor should commissaries be admitted; the diet ought to be very light with acidulated demulcent drinks.

(of Passive Hemorrhage from the Lungs.)  
This may proceed either originally, or from <sup>the previous</sup> depletion of active Hemoptysis. The indication in this disease is to restore the strength of the system and tone.

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to the blood vessels.

It is to be treated by administering some of the various tonics and astringents. Of the tonics, Bark is far preferable to any other of the class. Dr. Chapman thinks that its good effects are increased, by combining with it some one of the Chalybeates. When Bark of good quality cannot be obtained, its various substitutes as Cornus Florida, oak Bark, Cherry Bark &c. may be used. Wine and Porter are useful auxiliaries. Porter should constitute nearly the whole of the patients drink. The mineral and vegetable astringents should not be overlooked. The mineral acids sometimes exert a very great power over this disease - of these the sulphuric acid is preferable. The patient should take moderate exercise particularly on horse back. The diet should be generous.

To prevent a relapse in hemoptysis every thing should be avoided which may increase the action of the arteries. The patient should wear flannel next the skin, and avoid all exposure to cold or heat. If the patient is feverish, small

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quantities of blood should be taken, and light doses of neutral salts. Dr Chapman thinks that when the predisposition continues, a slight salivation with mercury, by transferring the disease from the lungs to the salivary glands would remove it.

James

